

**Public Involvement Statement for the I-80/94 Interchange Modifications at I-65
Project for PM2.5 Hot-spot Consideration**

This announcement is to comply with the fine particulate, PM2.5, hot-spot consideration requirements for the I-80/94 Interchange Modifications at I-65 project in Lake County, Indiana (the I-80/94 Interchange Modification at I-65, Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) # 17 is included in Air Quality Conformity Determination between the Connections 2030 Regional Transportation Plan, the Fiscal Year 2005-2009 Transportation Improvement Program and the Indiana State Implementation Plan for Air Quality, prepared by NIRPC, the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the region in which the project is located). The proposed reconstruction of I-80 begins approximately 0.2 mile east of Georgia Street in Gary, IN, continues east through the I-65 interchange terminating 0.8 mile east of Clay Street in Lake Station, IN. Along I-65 the reconstruction begins south of the interchange at 37th Street in Hobart, IN, continuing north through the I-80/94 interchange extending to the south bridge approach of I-65 over Central Avenue and Conrail Calumet railroad in Gary, IN. The total length along I-80/94 (Borman Expressway) is 2.84 miles. The length for the I-65 reconstruction is 1.31 miles. The cross sections of the proposed improvements at the west terminus and south terminus will match the recently completed cross section of I-80/94 and the existing cross section of I-65, respectively. The interagency consultation (IAC) team determined that this project meets the criteria for a project that must have a qualitative analysis performed to determine the project's potential air quality impacts. As such, a qualitative analysis was done. The IAC reviewed this analysis and determined that the project will neither cause nor add to an area PM2.5 violation in this area. The PM2.5 qualitative analysis report may be viewed electronically at the Indiana Department of Transportation website: www.in.gov/dot or the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) website: www.nirpc.org. A hard copy of the report is available at the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) office at the following address: 6100 Southport Road, Portage, Indiana (PHONE# 219-763-6060. The comment period for this document will end 15 days from the date of publishing.

Please address any questions or comments to:

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